

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A tent comprising:
 - a shell defining an internal space having a plurality of interface members extending from an inside surface of the shell;
 - at least one internal support structure configured to provide structural support to the shell;
 - a plurality of support members coupled to the internal support structure and configured to engage the plurality of interface members to couple the at least one internal support structure to the shell;
 - wherein the internal support structure is disposed adjacent and generally parallel to substantially increase useable space within the internal space.
2. The tent of Claim 1 wherein the internal support is configured to maximize the useable space within the internal space.
3. The tent of Claim 1 wherein the shell is supported without the use of poles located in the middle area of the internal space.
4. The tent of Claim 1 wherein the shell is supported by the engagement of the support members and the interface members, and by being draped across at least a portion of the at least one internal support structure.
5. The tent of Claim 1 wherein each of the interface members comprise a receptacle configured to receive one of the interface members.
6. The tent of Claim 1 wherein the internal support structure is an arch.

7. An internal support structure for a tent having a shell, the internal support structure comprising:
 - a plurality of interface members extending from an inside surface of the shell;
 - at least one internal support structure configured to provide structural support to the shell;
 - a plurality of support members coupled to the internal support structure and configured to engage the plurality of interface members to couple the at least one internal support structure to the shell;
 - wherein the internal support structure is disposed adjacent and generally parallel to substantially increase useable space within the internal space.
8. The internal support structure of Claim 7 wherein each of the support members include a receptacle configured to receive one of the interface members.
9. The internal support structure of Claim 8 wherein the interface members are rectangular tube shaped members.
10. The internal support structure of Claim 9 wherein the support members are rectangular tube shaped members.
11. The internal support structure of Claim 9 wherein interface members each include a pair of tabs having slots configured to receive straps sewn to the shell
12. The internal support structure of Claim 7 wherein the internal support structure is an arch.
13. The internal support structure of Claim 7 wherein the shell is supported without the use of poles located in the middle area of the internal space

14. A tent comprising:
a shell defining an internal space;
means for providing internal support to the shell without occupying a middle portion of the internal space.

15. The tent of Claim 14 wherein means for providing internal support to the shell comprises an arch and at least one support member extending from the arch to engage the shell.

16. The tent of Claim 15 wherein the shell includes at least one interface member extending from an inside surface and configured to engage the support member.

17. The tent of Claim 16 wherein engagement of the support member and the interface member is configured to provide a space between the shell and means for providing internal support.

18. The tent of Claim 16 wherein the support member is configured to receive the interface member in a sliding engagement.

19. The tent of Claim 19 wherein the support member comprises a first rectangular tube and the interface member comprises a second rectangular tube.

20. The tent of Claim 16 wherein an inside dimension of the first rectangular tube is larger than an external dimension of the second rectangular tube.